Na no Naki Tori no Tobu Yoake

[Iggocent Bird]

Volume 2, Chapter 5

Scanned by: Kalandel
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STORM IN HEAVEN

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Na no Naki Tori no Tobu Yoake 2

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Na mo Naki Tori no Tobu Yoake
~INNOCENT BIRD~
[Chapter 5]

FIX THE "DISTORTION".
THE "DISTORTION" THAT HAS RECENTLY APPEARED IN THE BOUNDARY THAT SEPARATES HEAVEN FROM EARTH IS SPREADING.

ALL THAT HAPPENS IN THE UNIVERSE IS GOD'S WILL.
IT IS NOT OUR PLACE TO QUESTION HIS PURPOSE.
IF THE DISTORTION SPREADS, HEAVEN WILL BE IN DANGER OF INVASION BY DEMONS.
THE DISTORTION MUST BE REPAIRED BEFORE ORDER IS DISTURBED.
...BUT,
SHOULDN'T WE FIND THE SOURCE OF THE DISTORTION FIRST?
OUR MISSION IS TO GUIDE YOU, SO YOU MAY SERVE GOD'S WILL.

SINCE WHEN HAVE ANGELS...
WE GRANT YOU CONTROL OF THE ARMY.
LEAD OUR WARRIORS, REPAIR THE DISTORTION, AND DEFEND OUR BORDERS.
YOU WILL HAVE TO BE DEMOTED, DOMINION.
IF YOU SHOULD FAIL...
UNDERSTOOD

COME TO THIS ..?
OUR OWN WILL IS CAST ASIDE, AND WE ALWAYS HAVE TO FOLLOW WHAT IS DECIDED FOR US
IS THIS ..

REALLY GOD'S INTENTION?
HEHE...

click
JUST AS I PICTURED IT...
IT WILL SPREAD INFINITELY, AND THE SYSTEM WILL CRUMBLE...
THE DISTORTION CAN'T BE STOPPED NOW.
GO.
KEEP THEM OCCUPIED.

swish
IN A LITTLE WHILE...

EVERYTHING
WILL BREAK.

YOU'RE AWAKE?
KARASU...
JOH
!
THE ARCH-DUKE——!
EVERYTHING'S FINE,
WE'RE BACK ON EARTH
DON'T WORRY...

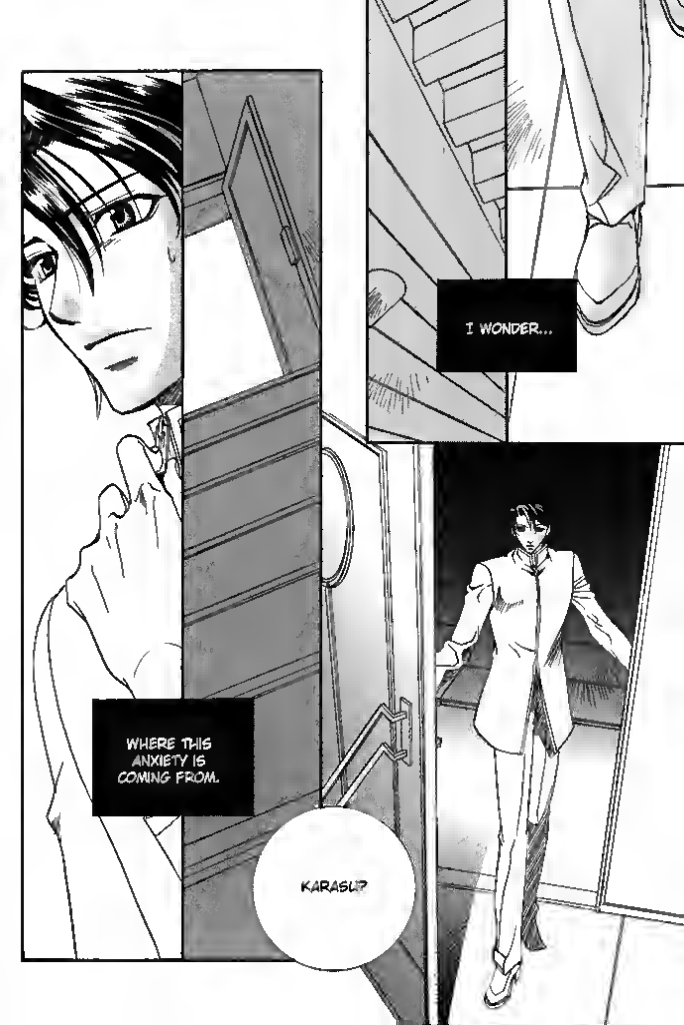
HE SAID THAT WE WERE EXILED FROM BOTH HEAVEN AND HELL,
SO WE WERE FREE TO LEAVE
DON'T WORRY...?
IT'S LIKE HE DIDN'T CARE IF WE LEFT OR WHAT WE DID
IT SEEMED LIKE HE WASN'T INTERESTED ANYMORE
REALLY...
DID THE ARCHDUKE...
REALLY BANISH US JUST LIKE THAT...?

I WENT TO HELL OF MY OWN FREE WILL,
AND I DON'T HAVE ANY REGRETS.
I'M SORRY...
YOU WERE KICKED OUT OF HEAVEN JUST FOR ASSOCIATING WITH ME.
AND NOW...
WE WON'T BE CHASED BY ANYONE ANYMORE.
WE CAN LIVE HERE TOGETHER.

KARASU...
OF COURSE,
THAT'S IF YOU'LL LET ME STAY HERE OR...
IS THAT NOT OKAY WITH YOU?
NOT OKAY?
NO, I'M REALLY HAPPY...
——BUT...

IS IT REALLY OVER ———?
Pierce
...!
KARASU?
WHAT'S WRONG?
I GUESS THE WOUND ZAGAN GAVE ME ISN'T HEALED YET.
DON'T WORRY, IT'LL HEAL SOON.
I'M OFF TO GO PICK UP SOME THINGS WE NEED.
SLEEP AS LONG AS YOU'D LIKE.

YES...
THAT REMINDS ME, I'VE LOST MY CROSS.
FOR SOME REASON,
I CAN'T STOP WORRYING.


I WONDER...
WHERE THIS ANXIETY IS COMING FROM.
KARASU?

shiver
EH?

I DON'T HAVE A SHADOW?
MY SHADOW...
stagger

thnk
ARE YOU OKAY?

YOU'RE...
FROM THE CHURCH?
I'VE FINALLY FOUND YOU.
I HEARD THAT THE CHURCH'S PRIEST WAS TAKING CARE OF THIS FELLOW, SO I CAME LOOKING FOR YOU.
I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH.
IT WAS NOTHING.

HM...
WELL, I'M NOT EXACTLY HIS OWNER...
I'M GLAD HE RETURNED TO HIS OWNER.
I WAS WORRIED AFTER HE DISAPPEARED FOR A WHILE
BUT WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT...
GR
AB
PRAISE GOD!
I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO MEET SOMEONE AS BEAUTIFUL AS YOU!
OH, I'M KOUMORI.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
—HUH?

rustle
squeeze
SHIRASAGI
SHIRASAGI! THAT'S SUCH A NICE NAME!
THIS'D DEFINITELY SUIT YOU
jolt
THAT..
THAT'S MY..!
OH?
THIS FELLOW HAD IT, SO I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE. LOOKS LIKE I WAS RIGHT

LOOKS LIKE YOU REALLY TREASURE IT.
YES...
IT'S THE FIRST GIFT I WAS EVER GIVEN.
HMM
THANK HEAVEN...
MY WORRY STILL HASN'T DIS-P-PEARED, BUT...
AT LEAST I'M SURE OF SOMETHING NOW.
WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER THROUGH GOOD TIMES AND BAD TIMES
THANK YOU FOR RETURNING THIS TO ME, KOUMORI

YOU REALLY LOOK BETTER LIKE THAT.
WHEN YOU'RE NOT LOOKING ALL SAD.
AND WHEN YOU SMILE, YOU'RE TRULY BEAUTIFUL.
OF COURSE, SINCE YOU'VE MET ME, YOU'RE GOING TO SMILE MORE.
okay?
squeeze
BUT FIRST...
YOU NEED TO HURRY AND GET YOUR SHADOW BACK.

IT'S TOO BAD...
LOOKS LIKE I'M OUT OF TIME TO WIN YOU OVER
WHAT...!?
SFX SLAM

KOUMORI...
HEY, DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT.
I'LL GET OUT OF YOUR WAY
LATER, SHIRASAGI
I'LL PROBABLY...
SEE YOU AGAIN SOON.
WHO WAS THAT?
THAT GUY

HE'S THE PARROT'S OWNER,
AND HE STOPPED BY TO THANK ME
IS THAT ALL?
HE'S JUST A HUMAN, RIGHT...?
HE KNOWS ABOUT MY SHADOW...
WHO IS HE...?
KARASU?
KARAS

SFX: THUNK
KARASU!?
YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND
WHAT DID HE MEAN—
BY THAT SMILE—?

I'M SORRY.
I DON'T GET IT MYSELF...
WHY AM I ANGRY LIKE THIS...?
THERE ARE ALL THESE EMOTIONS INSIDE OF ME...
IT COULDN'T BE...

SAX-TEARS
SAX-PEARL
YOU'VE...
SWOOSH
SAX SLASH

KARASU
!?
DEVILS!?
WE WERE BANISHED!
WHY ARE YOU HERE!?

I'VE GOT SOME BUSINESS
BUT NOT WITH YOU WITH HIM
I KNOW
SFX WHOOSH

SFX TEAR

SK WHOOSH
SKRIP
URGGHH!
KARASU!?

USING HIS SEALED POWERS RUNS AGAINST GOD'S WILL
SAK
WHOOSH
SWISH
THE MORE HE USES THEM, THE CLOSER HE GETS TO FALLING!
THAT IS OUR GOAL!
BANG

THAT'S ENOUGH!
KARASU, STOP!
PLEASE ...
STOP..
...RASUGI...

I CAN'T... CONTROL... IT
RUN...!
KARASU!
clack
I THINK NOT
YOU'RE THE REASON HE'S FIGHTING,
SO WE CAN'T LET YOU RUN AWAY NOW!
SFX WHOOSH

!!
SIX THINK
SORRY, BUT...
I WON'T LET YOU DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.

SWISH
IMPOSSIBLE...
YOU CAN'T WIELD THIS MUCH POWER IN THE GUISE OF A HUMAN...
SWISH
RIGHT...
HEY, YOU TWO! SNAP OUT OF IT!
AND LET'S GET MOVING!
WHO...

[Chapter 5] End

ASUKA COMICS CLDX

名も無き鳥の飛ぶ夜明け 2

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大公の手を逃れ、地上へ戻ってきた鴉と白鳳。気持ちを確かめ合い、ますます絆を深める二人だったが、悪魔である白鳳は自らの影を無くし、天使の鴉には堕天の兆候が現れる。行き場のない二人の前に「お前さんたちの大先輩だよ」と名乗る謎の青年・蝙蝠が！。二人の愛と覚悟が天地を揺るがす、激動の第二巻！

XENOSAGA

Na no Naki Tori no Tobu Yoake

[Innocent Bird]

Volume 2, Chapter 6

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Na mo Naki Tori no
Tobu Yoake
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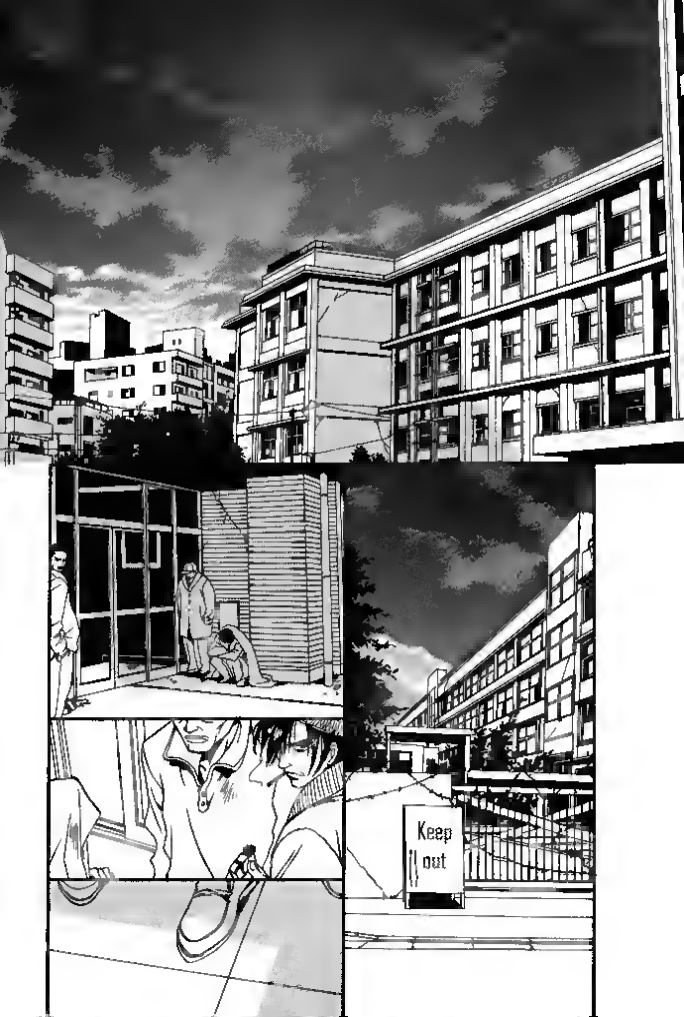
[Chapter 6]


Keep
out

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
PEOPLE WHO'VE LOST THEIR HOMES COME HERE
REALLY,
IT'S GOTTEN MUCH WORSE SINCE THE LAST TIME I WAS HERE
IT'S JUST LIKE...

THE SITUATION WE'RE IN.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?

THE MORE KARASU USES HIS POWER, THE CLOSER HE'LL GET TO FALLING.
BUT IF I STAY WITH HIM, HE'LL USE HIS POWER TO PROTECT ME.
I'M BEING PUNISHED BY GOD, AND I'D JUST DRAG HIM DOWN.
I...
SHIRASAGI?
CAN'T STAY WITH HIM, CAN I ——?

HEEEY!
SARUGAMI,
I'M COMING IN
SARUGAMI?
HM?
KOUMORI?

MOVE
IT'S BEEN A WHILE
WHAT TROUBLE HAVE YOU BROUGHT WITH YOU THIS TIME?
YEAH, SORRY
CAN YOU HIDE THESE GUYS FOR A WHILE?
OH MY
glitter
SUCH UNUSUAL GUESTS
UM,
SARUGAMI SHISAI?
HM?
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!

OH!
YOU'RE SHIRASAGI!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HE...
AH!
SQUEEZE
I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN SO LONG!
PRAISE GOD FOR LETTING ME SEE YOU AGAIN!
HUG
HAVE YOU BEEN TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF? EATING RIGHT?
HRM, HAVEN'T YOU LOST WEIGHT?
AH, WELL...
Pat
Pat

OH, YES... I'M SORRY
LET ME INTRODUCE YOU.
he he he he
clare
YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?
THIS IS S.RUGAMI SHISAI.
HE'S MY THEOLOGY TEACHER
AND ALSO...
THE MAN WHO TAUGHT ME HOW TO LIVE

SHISAI
THIS IS KARASU
DON'T LOOK...
THAT SO.
SO HAPPY.
HE'S...
A FRIEND.
"A FRIEND."

AREN'T HUMAN EITHER, RIGHT?
REALLY? IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU.
THANKS FOR LOOKING AFTER SHIRASAGI.
.....!
YOU ..

SFX: CRACK
!?
GRAB
ATTENTION: THOSE ILLEGALLY RESIDING IN THE ABANDONED SCHOOL.
KARASU...!

roar
roar
roar
roar
LEAVE THIS PLACE AT ONCE!
YOU ARE COMMITTING A CRIME.
GET OUT OF THIS CITY!
THERE'S NO PLACE FOR YOU HERE!
GET OUT!
HUH.
THEY'RE REALLY GOING ALL OUT.
SIGH
THERE'S BEEN MORE UPROAR AGAINST THIS PLACE RECENTLY
NOTHING I SAY MAKES ANY DIFFERENCE.

I...
ANYWAY, WHAT'S YOUR STORY?
SOMETHING HAPPENED TO YOU TWO, RIGHT? WOULD YOU LIKE TO TELL ME?
SIIP

DON'T WORRY.
I CAN'T...
WE KNOWS I'M A DEMON
WE CAN TRUST HIM

KEEP DEPENDING ON HIM.
...
HEY, KARASU.
LET'S TALK
...
ABOUT WHAT?

NOTHING BIG
SARUGAMI
SORRY, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO GET THE WHOLE STORY FROM SHIRASAGI
BUT WE CAN'T TALK HERE

WELL,
THERE'S NO ONE AROUND HERE
DON'T GLARE AT ME LIKE THAT.
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GOING TO DO ANYTHING

SO YOU'LL CLEAR SOME THINGS UP FOR ME?
JUST WHO ARE YOU?
AND WHY ARE YOU HELPING US?
BECAUSE I WAS TOLD TO.
I'M JUST A MESSENGER.
WHAT?
THAT'S MY DUTY.
I WILL GUIDE YOU TWO TO WHAT YOU REALLY WANT.

!!
YOU'RE A MESSENGER FROM HEAVEN?
NOPE.
I'M NOT CONNECTED TO HEAVEN OR HELL.
IN SHORT,
THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE THAT'S WORRIED ABOUT YOUR SITUATION.
.....
AND I'M SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE THIS?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE ME, JUST KNOW THAT I'M NOT YOUR ENEMY
OTHERWISE IT'LL BE HARD FOR ME TO DO MY PART
DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
SO,
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

THEN TELL ME WHAT TO DO!
AT THIS RATE, YOU TWO ARE JUST GOING TO DESTROY YOURSELVES.
SFX: SLAM
RUNNING FROM PLACE TO PLACE ISN'T GOING TO CHANGE ANYTHING.

THEY'RE GOING TO KEEP TORMENTING SHIRASAGI TO MAKE ME FALL!
ALL WE WANT IS TO LIVE OUR LIVES IN PEACE!
BUT...
WE CAN'T EVEN HAVE THAT MUCH
SHIRASAGI WILL BLAME HIMSELF IF I USE MY POWER.
BUT IF I DON'T USE MY POWER, I CAN'T PROTECT HIM.
NO MATTER WHAT I DO, HE ENDS UP SUFFERING.
KARASU.

TO LIVE TOGETHER PEACEFULLY
IS THAT WHAT YOU REALLY WANT?
TO LIVE WITH HIM...?
NO, THAT'S NOT IT.
WHAT I WANT...

FOR SHIRASAGI NOT TO SUFFER ANY MORE.
FOR HIS SOUL TO BE SAVED.
FOR HIS WISH TO BE GRANTED.
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO ME
I WANT...
TO LET HIM LIVE IN HAPPINESS.

THERE IS A WAY...
THEN...
FOR SHIRASAGI TO BECOME HUMAN
IF THAT IS YOUR DECISION
HOW NOSTALGIC
flicker
clink

WE USED TO GET TOGETHER AND TALK LIKE THIS BEFORE...
YOU REALLY DIDN'T SAY MUCH, THOUGH.
THAT'S BECAUSE, BACK THEN...
I COULDN'T TRUST ANYONE.
I WAS RUNNING AWAY FROM CERTAIN DEATH AT THE ARCHDUKE'S HANDS.
I HAD NOTHING AND NO ONE TO RELY ON.
I WAS ALL ALONE... NOT KNOWING ANYTHING ABOUT LOVE, AND THEN YOU TAUGHT ME HOW TO FIND GOD'S LOVE...
SINCE GOD LOVES THOSE WHO LOVE HIM
BUT...

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE ALREADY FORGOTTEN HOW TO LOVE SOMEONE.
THAT FINE MAN WITH YOU...
HE HONESTLY LOVES YOU.
IT'S WARM...
hress

IF YOU'RE SUFFERING, SAY SO
IF YOU DON'T SAY ANYTHING, WON'T HE SUFFER AS WELL?
IT'S STILL WARM...
WHERE HE TOUCHED ME...
THINGS LIKE THAT DON'T CHANGE
RIGHT?

KEEP ANYTHING FROM YOU...
I COULD NEVER...
HE'S...
GRASP
SUFFERING SO MUCH BECAUSE OF ME...
I'M A DEMON, AND IF I'M WITH HIM, HE'S THE ONE WHO'S GOING TO SUFFER.
SO I CAN'T STAY WITH HIM..
THAT'S RIGHT.

I SHOULD LEAVE HIM TO KEEP HIM FROM FALLING.
touch
DOES MY CHEST HURTS LIKE THIS...?
THAT'S THE ONLY WAY.
BUT WHY...
WHAT...

DO YOU REALLY WANT?
YES...
I
I
I WANT TO BE WITH HIM

I DON'T WANT TO...
I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE HIM...
I DIDN'T NOTICE IT HAPPENING, BUT I SUDDENLY...
LOVE HIM SO MUCH.
LOVE HIM WITHOUT FEAR.
THEN THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,
I'M SURE YOUR LOVE WILL SEE YOU THROUGH IT.
SO GET GOING.
I THINK HE FEELS THE SAME AS YOU,
HE'S JUST WAITING FOR YOU TO SAY IT.

WHEN I FIRST SAW YOUR WHITE WINGS,
I THOUGHT THEY WERE SO BEAUTIFUL.
I DON'T WANT TO HIDE ANYTHING FROM YOU.
NO, YOU... WERE THE BEAUTIFUL ONE.

THIS IS MY PUNISHMENT
I'LL WILLINGLY ACCEPT GOD'S JUSTICE
GASP
THE TIME WILL PROBABLY COME WHEN I DISAPPEAR LIKE MY SHADOW
BUT
I'M NOT AFRAID
SFX HUG

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I FE R...
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU
YES...
I DON'T WANT TO RUN FROM MY FEELINGS ANYMORE
IF YOU ACCEPT THEM, LET ME SAY THIS
I FEEL THE SAME WAY.

EVEN IF YOU DON'T ACCEPT THEM,
LET ME SAY IT...
THAT THIS MOMENT WILL END.
I LOVE YOU

[Chapter 6] End

Na no Naki Tori no Tobu Yoake

INNOCENT

Na no Naki Tori no Tobu Yoake

INNOCENT

Na no Naki Tori no Tobu Yoake

[Innocent Bird]

Volume 2, Chapter 7

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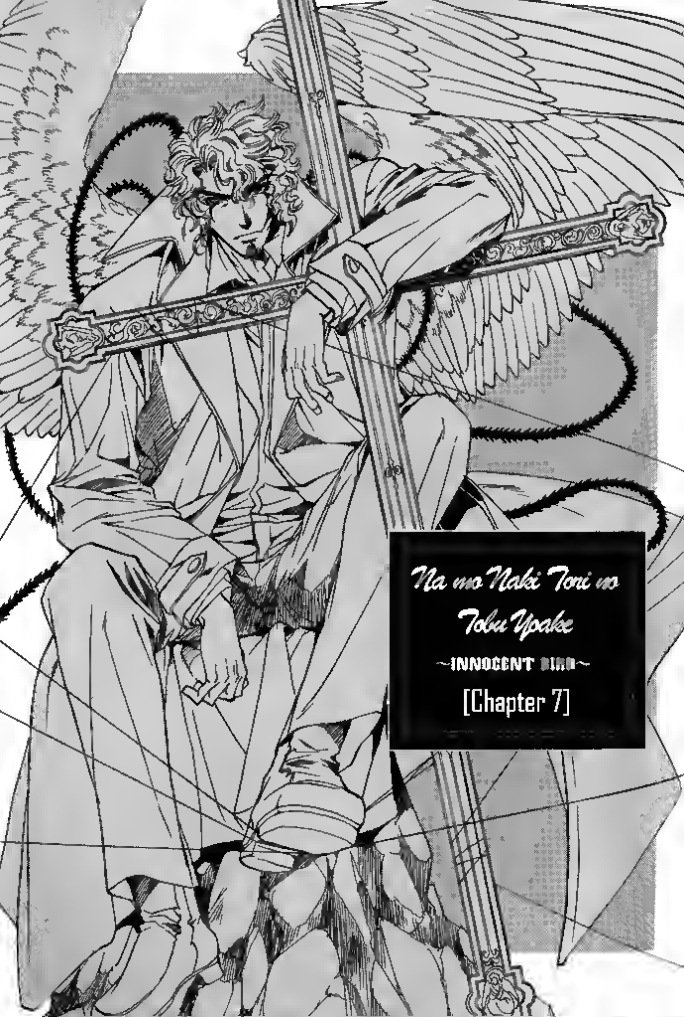

Na mo Naki Tori no
Tobu Yoake
~INNOCENT BIRD~
[Chapter 7]

RED BLOOD...

WHO...
AM I?
ぐはぁっ!

.....!
A DREAM...?
FOR A DREAM.
THE BLOOD SEEMED SO HORRIBLY REAL...

SHIRASAGI...?

THERE'S THE URGE TO FIGHT AND KILL INSIDE OF ME.
EVER SINCE I STARTED TO HATE, AND TRIED TO KILL THAT MAN, I BEGAN TO FALL.
IF I LOSE CONTROL,
LIKE IN THAT DREAM, AND FALL COMPLETELY...
WILL I BE ABLE TO PROTECT HIM..?

KOUMORI?
HI.
WELL, LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING'S CHANGED
YOU MUST'VE WORKED THINGS OUT WITH SHIRASAGI YESTERDAY, HMM?
NONE OF YOUR BUISINESS.
SO, KEEPING IT SECRET?
HAVE YOU SLEPT WITH HIM YET?
.....

DOING ANYTHING LIKE THAT WITH SOMEONE FROM ANOTHER SPECIES IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN FOR AN ANGEL
I CAN'T
HMPH, ANGELS ALWAYS HAVE BEEN KINDA SLOW WITH THAT STUFF.
HEY...!
KARASU
ABOUT...
WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT LAST NIGHT, ARE YOU CERTAIN?

YOU'LL PROBABLY EVEN WIND UP HURTING SHIRASAGI.
YOUR RESOLVE HAS TO BE COMPLETE IF YOU'RE GOING TO TURN THAT DEMON INTO A HUMAN.
BUT IF YOU HAVE THE WILL-POWER TO SEE IT THROUGH TO THE VERY END,
I'LL LEAD YOU TO WHERE YOU NEED TO GO.

I WANT HIS WISH TO COME TRUE.
BUT WILL I WIND UP ENDING WHAT WE HAVE NOW...?
EXCUSE ME

IS SARUGAMI SHISAI HERE?
OH, WHAT'S THIS...?
I'M SARUGAMI WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU
I'M TATSUMI, THE MINISTER AROUND THESE PARTS
I'M HERE TO TALK WITH YOU ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS

I'M NOT HERE TO TALK ABOUT EVICTING YOU TODAY EITHER
I HAVE SOMETHING EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO SPEAK WITH YOU ABOUT.
WE'LL HAVE TO ARGUE OVER MATTERS OF RELIGION ANOTHER TIME
OH?
IF YOU SEND A MINISTER TO NEGOTIATE WITH A PRIEST, WE'LL JUST WIND UP TALKING THEOLOGY
WE SHOULD STAY HERE
SOMETHING DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.
KARASU

PSS
OKAY...
IT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT...
THERE WAS A MURDER NOT FAR FROM HERE...
AND THE MURDERER STILL HASN'T BEEN CAUGHT
THE EYEWITNESS SAID SOMETHING STRANGE
THAT THE MURDERER WASN'T HUMAN...

BUT HAD HUGE WINGS, LIKE A BIRD
BD
MR
THEY SAID THAT THE MURDERER ROSE INTO THE SKY,
AND FLEW HERE
OF COURSE, THEY WERE PROBABLY SEEING THINGS
BUT THERE'S THE SLIGHT POSSIBILITY THAT SOMETHING LIKE IT COULD HAVE HAPPENED.

WINGS?
THE COLOR OF BLOOD, SO VIVID IN THE DARKNESS
THAT HORRIBLE SCENE...
WASN'T A DREAM...?

KARASU...
ARE YOU OKAY?
HIS HANDS ARE SO GENTLE.
YES...
YOU'RE A HORRIBLE LIAR
KARASU, LOOK AT ME

NO MORE SECRETS
IF SOMETHING IS HURTING YOU, DON'T SUFFER THROUGH IT ALONE
LET ME HELP YOU CARRY YOUR BURDEN
SINCE YOU AND I... AREN'T ALONE ANYMORE
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE HIM.

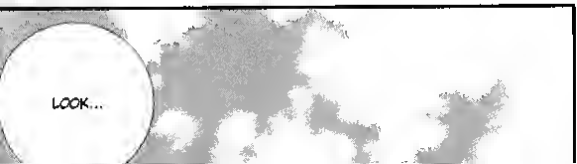
I'M SORRY THAT YOU CAME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE,
BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, I'D HARDLY BE ABLE TO KEEP SOME KIND OF HUGE BIRD...
HM,
SO YOU'RE SAYING THAT THE MURDERER MIGHT BE CONNECTED TO US?
THAT'S RIGHT! YOU WOULD TRY TO FIND SOME STRANGE EXCUSES!
THE MURDER HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH US!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
CALM DOWN
INSTEAD OF STANDING AND TALKING OUT HERE, WHY DON'T YOU COME IN AND HAVE SOME TEA?
WHAT'D YOU DO, START SOME CRAZY CULT HERE!?
AND WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE YOU!!?
WHAT'D YOU SAY!?

NO, THAT'S NOT NECESSARY
I CAN SENSE THE EVIL THAT LURKS IN MEN'S HEARTS HERE.
ALL MEN RESTRAIN THEIR WICKEDNESS.
LOOK AROUND, YOU'LL FIND NO EVIL MEN HERE.
I'LL BELIEVE YOU FOR NOW, AND LEAVE THE REST TO THE POLICE.
I UNDER-STAND

I'M GLAD WE COULD COME TO AN AGREEMENT.
DON'T LOCK THE GATE,
LET ANYONE WHO WANTS TO SEARCH DO AS THEY'D LIKE
AND LET ANYONE IN WHO ASKS
DON'T WORRY.
COME WITH ME.
SARUGAMI SHISAI---

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS, REVEREND? WE SHOULD MAKE THEM TALK
DON'T WORRY,
I'M SURE THEY'LL SLIP UP.

YES,
WE'VE LOCATED THE POWER.


LOOK...

IT'S ALMOST HARVEST TIME
SHISAI...
THE DEMONS CHASING US MIGHT HAVE PLANNED THIS OUT.
IF WE STAY HERE, EVERYONE WILL BE IN DANGER.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT THAT MINISTER SAID.
SO LONG AS WE STAY HERE, WE'RE SAFE.
HOW?
rummage
HMM... IT WAS AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE
THERE!

WE'LL STAY IN THE SCHOOL AND CREATE A BARRIER.
WHAT'S THAT?
JUST A GUY USING HIS OLD CREATIONS
THIS WILL PROTECT EVERYONE IN THE SCHOOL.
WHO ARE YOU...?
ANY DEMON WHO HARBORS ILL WILL SHOULD BE FROZEN WHEN THEY HIT THE BARRIER.
BUT...

rustle
NOWADAYS, ALL MY POWER IS GOOD FOR ARE THINGS LIKE PRAYING FOR A GOOD HARVEST.
BUT I'M FINE LIKE THIS
SINCE POWER WON'T BRING YOU HAPPINESS.
POWER WON'T...
grip
SHIRASAGI,
IF...
KARASU?

IF I CAN'T STOP MYSELF FROM FALLING,
THEN SOMEDAY... I'LL PROBABLY KILL SOME-ONE.
BEFORE THAT HAPPENS...
OR MAYBE...
I'VE ALREADY...
I...

EVEN SO,
I'LL BE WITH YOU.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,
I'LL BE WITH YOU UNTIL THE END.
I...

I HAVE TO GRANT HIS WISH.

SFX STAB
!!
SFX GASP
AGAIN...?

SHIT...
GIVE ME A BREAK.
SIP
MM
Zzz
YOU

WERE HOLDING MY HAND ALL NIGHT?
MAYBE...
YOUR HAND IS KEEPING ME SANE...
JOLT
WHO'S THERE!?

NO...
IT LOOKS LIKE...

A CHERUB
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, POWER
NEAR A HUNDRED YEARS, RIGHT?
YOU HAVEN'T COMPLETELY FALLEN YET
CHERUBIM ARE THE SECOND MOST POWERFUL ANGELS, SO WHY WOULD YOU COME TO EARTH?
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TO ASK

I'VE COME TO GIVE YOU YOUR FINAL NOTICE
WE GOVERN HEAVEN...
I PASS JUDGEMENT ON THE FALLEN ONE
IN THE NAME OF OUR MOST SACRED LORD,

YOU CAN'T KEEP YOURSELF FROM FALLING
BUT YOU WILL, POWER.
SO IT DOESN'T MATTER
WAIT!
I HAVEN'T FALLEN YET!
BECAUSE IN THE DEPTHS OF YOUR HEART, YOU DOUBT GOD.
YOU REALIZE THAT, DON'T YOU?

I'LL GRANT YOU TWENTY FOUR HOURS.
YOU HAVE UNTIL THEN TO REGAIN YOUR FAITH IN GOD.
IF YOU CAN'T, I'LL SEAL YOU BEFORE YOU FALL.

"IF AN ANGEL LOSES HIS LOVE FOR GOD, HE WILL FALL."
IS THIS
JUST...
ONE DAY?
WHAT YOU MEANT ———!?
SFX: BOOM
UNTIL THEN

SFX: BOOM
!?
SFX: BANG
SFX: SHINE

THE BARRIER BROKE!?
SHIT!
WHO THE HELL BROKE IT!?
UGH...
KARASU...
SARUGAMI SHISAI!?

[Chapter 7] End

Na no Naki Tori no Tobu Yoake

[Innocent Bird]

Volume 2, Chapter 8

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STORM IN HEAVEN

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Na no Naki Tori no
Tobu Yoake
~INNOCENT BIRD~
[Chapter 8]

WHERE AM I...?
EVERYONE,

I'M SORRY TO HAVE TO SAY THIS, BUT THAT FOUL MURDERER STOLE ANOTHER PRECIOUS LIFE NEAR THE CLOSED SCHOOL LAST NIGHT.
THE MURDER TOOK PLACE EXACTLY WHEN THE THE FIRE STARTED IN THE SCHOOL.
BUT I DON'T THINK THAT THE TWO EVENTS ARE CONNECTED.
NO, THERE'S NO DOUBT! THE FIRE MUST'VE BEEN GOD'S DIVINE JUSTICE!
THOSE BUMS ARE BEHIND THE MURDERS!
I SAW THE FIRE LAST NIGHT, BUT IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE A NORMAL ONE.
IT WAS LIKE SOMETHING EXPLODED...
ARE THEY HIDING DYNAMITE OR SOMETHING?
THAT'S RIGHT, LAST NIGHT...!

I HAD AN UNEASY FEELING, SO I GOT OUT OF BED
SARU-GAMI!?
I WAS KNOCKED OUT.
DID THESE GUYS ATTACK US!?
I'M SORRY FOR THE ROUGH TREATMENT.
HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
AH....
HE'S AWAKE.
.....
JUST WHAT IS HE PLANNING?

I'M GLAD YOU AREN'T SERIOUSLY INJURED.
SHOCK
WHAT!?
AS YOU KNOW, THERE'S SPECULATION THAT THE SCHOOL IS HARBORING THE MURDERER
HOWEVER, I'M SURE THAT YOU, AS A PRIEST, WILL TELL ME THE TRUTH.
PLEASE TELL ALL OF US WHAT'S GOING ON
I CAN'T SPEAK!!
WHY CAN'T I...!?
WHAT'S WRONG?

IF YOU DON'T SAY ANYTHING, WON'T YOU JUST BE CONFIRMING THE RUMOR?
ARE YOU SUDDENLY UNABLE TO DENY THIS RUMOR, WHEN FACED WITH GOD'S HOLY BIBLE?
I... I CAN'T MOVE!
IT'S NOT JUST MY VOICE...!
UPROAR
I KNEW IT!!
rustle
OH, THAT'S RIGHT...
uproar
THAT OTHER PRIEST WAS OBVIOUSLY LYING!
ANYONE WHO HIDES A MURDER IS A CRIMINAL TOO!
WE DID DISCOVER THIS ON THE SCHOOL GROUNDS...

AAH!!
LOOK AT IT!!!
SIX: UPROAR
THAT'S GOT TO BE THE VICTIMS' BLOOD!
ISN'T THAT WHAT CREATES THE BARRIER AROUND THE SCHOOL!?
IS THAT FROM SOME CULT!?
WHAT'S THAT SYMBOL?
THEY'RE CRAZY! THEY'RE ALL MAD!
THIS IS FOR REAL! WE CAN'T JUST LET THESE LUNATICS DO AS THEY PLEASE IN THIS TOWN!
WE'VE GOT TO DRIVE THEM OUT!

WE'VE GOT TO STOP THEM BEFORE THEY KILL AGAIN!
LET'S DRIVE THEM OUT!
EVERYONE, GET READY!
WE'LL FORCE THE TRASH OUT!
DOES IT HURT?
DON'T WORRY...
.....
WHO IS HE...

YOU'LL FEEL BETTER SOON
WHO...?

SARUGAMI NEEDS REST RIGHT NOW.
HE HAS TWO FRACTURED BONES AND TOOK A HIT TO THE SKULL
SO THE PEOPLE IN THE NEIGH-BORHOOD JUST SUDDENLY CAME AND DID THIS?
HALF OF THE SCHOOL WAS BURNT, SHIRASAGI WAS ABDUCTED.
IT'S---
AND HE WAS BEATEN.
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!

HUH?
THAT'S RIGHT!
AND AREN'T YOU GUYS THE MURDERERS!?
WE'D ARGUED WITH THE PEOPLE AROUND HERE BEFORE, BUT THAT WAS IT!
ALL THESE BAD THINGS STARTED WHEN YOU CAME!
HEY NOW, ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO TREAT SOMEONE AS GORGEOUS AS ME LIKE A CRIMINAL?
LET'S GO, KOUMORI
HUH?
HEY, KARASU!

rustle
THE GARDEN?
AS I THOUGHT, THE STONE THAT CREATED A BARRIER WAS BROKEN AWAY
WHETHER THEY WERE AFTER THE BARRIER STONE, OR JUST WANTED TO BREAK THE BARRIER...
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HERE?
pull
SHCLATTER
THE FIRE WAS PROBABLY JUST A DIVERSION. THIS WAS THEIR REAL GOAL
EITHER WAY, WE KNOW SOMETHING EVIL CAME HERE

EVEN THOUGH YOUR POWERS ARE SEALED?
HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
TO FIND SHIRASAGI
I...
DON'T HAVE ANY TIME LEFT...
EVERY NIGHT I DREAM ABOUT FALLING AND KILLING PEOPLE...
THE MADNESS INSIDE OF ME AWAKENS...

ALL THESE MURDERS MIGHT JUST BE MY DOING
THAT'S PROBABLY WHY SHIRASAGI WAS TAKEN...
I...
I CAN'T HANDLE HIM SUFFERING BECAUSE OF ME ANYMORE ..
—— GOD...
IS THIS MY PUNISHMENT...?

I KNOW WHERE THEY WENT, THE GUYS WHO CAME HERE LAST NIGHT!
clack
UM...
YOU GUYS ARE THE PRIEST'S FRIENDS, RIGHT?
MY MOM SAID TO KEEP OUT OF IT,
BUT I'LL LET YOU KNOW
SO...!
SO GET HIM BACK!

IT'S QUIET.
creak
NO ONE'S HERE?
NO.
THEY'RE HERE.
SFX WHOOSH

SO THE MONSTERS HAVE COME OUT
phew
WHERE'S SHIRASAGI!?
WE ALMOST HAD YOU
HEHEHE
SLAM
YOU SHOULD WORRY ABOUT YOURSELF, POWER, AND NOT ABOUT YOUR LOVER
OR WAIT, YOU'RE ONLY GOING TO BE AN ANGEL FOR A FEW MORE HOURS, RIGHT?
SFX: BOMP

DID YOU ENJOY THE DREAM WHERE YOU KILLED THAT WOMAN?
WASN'T SHE TASTIER THAN SHE LOOKED?
AH YES, AND THE DREAMS OF KILLING TO TORMENT YOU
HOW DO YOU...!
OUR MASTER IS ALL-SEEING
THEY WERE NIGHTMARES!!
BASTARDS!

slide
step
WE'RE JUST SUPPOSED TO KEEP YOU HERE!
YOU'RE TOO LATE TO FIND OUR MASTER
UNFORTU-NATELY, THEY WERE
I'LL HANDLE THESE SMALL FRIES.
THE LEAD CHARACTER HAS TO GO SAVE THE PRINCESS, YOU KNOW
KOUMORI...

rustle
DON'T WORRY, I'LL FIGHT YOU
COME ON
IDIOT! YOU THINK YOU CAN RUN?
THANKS
SFX. SHOCK
!?
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU
WITH THE POWER IN THIS RELIC

WH...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
THAT'S WHY I SAY WE HAVE PROOF.
WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COOPERATION.
THAT'S WHY WE'LL HAVE TO USE FORCE.
YOU WON'T LEAVE, AND OUR PATIENCE HAS ITS LIMITS.
YOU CAN'T

SFX. AAAHH
WE BROKE THEIR STONE,
GET ALL OF THEIR CRAP OUT!
SO THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT...!
BUILD A BARRICADE AROUND THE SCHOOL!
OH...
WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT?
W—— WAIT!
YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG!
SO...
SFX. ROAR
LET'S BEGIN.

SFX BOOM
S—
STOP!
SHISAI AND EVERYONE ARE STILL IN THERE!
!!
SFX WHOOSH
BURN IT DOWN!
KACHA
YEAH, BREAK IT!
BREAK IT ALL!

THESE FILTHY MUD DOLLS ARE NEARING THE END OF THEIR DAYS...
flare
roar
TA... TATSUMI, THIS ISN'T GOING WELL...
OH?
WE HAVE TO GIVE THEM A GOOD SHOW.
I...
IT...
IT COULDN'T BE HIM...!

LET ANYONE ELSE GET HURT!!
SFX: CR_ICK
NO
I WON'T...
I BROKE THE SPELL!

OH, HE'S...!
LET HIM GO
HE'LL DIE ANYWAY
SA... WHOOSH
SA...
SARU-GAMI...!
FATHER!!
PLEASE BE SAFE...!

SFX GASP
THERE'S NO TIME!!
SFX FLAP
ack
ahh!
HU——
HURRY AND RUN!
SHIRASAGI!

ARE YOU
GOING TO LEAVE HIM ALL ALONE!?
.....
I CAN'T!
SARU-GAMI
HURRY ...!
Here
I WON'T MAKE IT...
GET YOUR-SELF OUT OF HERE!
SPEED
SFX BOOM

KARASU!!
WOOSH
DAMN IT!
HE'S IN THERE ..!?
SHIRASAGI!?

IT'S TIME
POWER
SWAP
WAIT!
I HAVE TO SAVE THEM!!
YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE
YOU WOULD PUT OTHER EMOTIONS BEFORE YOUR LOVE OF GOD?

YOU'RE INFATUATED WITH HUMANS AND DEMONS
I'M SURE GOD GRIEVES FOR YOU
SFX: WIND
GRGH!
YOU CAN REPENT YOUR CRIME WHILE YOU'RE IMPRISONED
CRIME?
WANTING TO LOVE AND HELP SHIRASAGI IS A CRIME?
AM I JUST SUPPOSED TO BLINDLY UPHOLD HIS LAWS!?

IS THIS...
YOUR ANSWER!?
SAK BAM
GOD!!

IF YOU THINK YOUR LAWS ARE JUST, THEN STRIKE ME DOWN WHERE I STAND!
WH——!
BUT IF YOU SEE ANY TRUTH IN MY WORDS...
IF THIS IS YOUR WILL,
I RENOUNCE YOU!
THEN HELP THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE YOU...!

SFX FLARE
SFX BAM
SFX WHOOSH

IT'S RAINING...
crack
OH...
NO
aaaa

SSA-FIVE
HE'S BEEN PROMOTED !
VIRTUES
AN ANGEL?

SSSSSS
JUST NOW GOD CREATED A DISTORTION.
I DIDN'T EXPECT THE ANGEL TO ESCAPE LIKE THAT WELL, NO MATTER.
SHWOOSH
!?
THE DISTORTION!?
IT'S YOU
NO ONE CAN STOP IT ANYMORE
THE TIME HAS FINALLY COME...

FOR PARADISE TO FALL——
BEAUTIFUL...
YOU ARE..
THE GOD I'D BEEN LOOKING FOR..

[Chapter 8] End

■ ようやく2巻までこぎつけました。物語もいよいよ佳境に入りかけ。今後の展開を描くのが楽しみでもあり、恐ろしくもあります。せめて最後までおつき合い下さいませ…。■ 2巻初登場の蝙蝠。彼は描き手にとっても 鴉たちにとっても(?) 程良い潤滑油になってます。今後の動向が気になる所。(描き手にとっても)
■今回も苦楽をともにして下さった担当さま、そして皆様に感謝を込めて！ ■如月。